



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

November 24, 2004

News Release

ICE COLLARS SEXUAL PREDATOR; PREPARES FOR HIS QUICK REMOVAL

Convicted sex offender repeatedly raped and sodomized a child over a four year period

PLAINFIELD, NJ – A U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Detention and Removal fugitive absconder team arrested a Peruvian man here convicted in 1987 of repeatedly sexually assaulting a child less than 13 years old.

Luis Hector Sanchez, 47, was arrested without incident at his home at 55 Westervelt Ave. and remains in ICE custody until he can be deported to Peru.

Sanchez's arrest is part of ICE's Operation Predator initiative, which has resulted in the arrest of more than 4,300 sexual predators nationwide since the operation started in July 2003. Of those arrested, 333 resided in New Jersey. Approximately 85% are foreign nationals and more than 2,100 have been deported to date.

Under immigration law, Sanchez's conviction makes him an aggravated felon eligible for deportation. Sanchez was first ordered deported in 2002, a decision he appealed. Sanchez lost his final appeal in front of an immigration judge in December 2003 and appealed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in January. The Court dismissed Sanchez's petition in March, initiating ICE efforts to detain and deport him.

"The despicable acts of predators like Sanchez rob the victims of their innocence and adolescence," said Greg Kendrick, Acting ICE Newark Detention and Removal Field Office Director. "ICE has arrested more than 330 predators like Sanchez in New Jersey and we will continue to exercise our authority under the nation's immigration laws to arrest and remove those aliens who endanger our communities."

Operation Predator protects children by investigating and presenting for prosecution pedophiles, Internet predators, human traffickers, international sex tourists and other predatory criminals. ICE has a toll-free number for the public to provide leads to its enforcement teams on any violations, including tips about child pornography, child sex offenders and others preying on children.

The 24-hour toll-free hotline is 1-866-DHS-2ICE. More information on Predator is available at www.ice.gov.
ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.